



Docket No. ERICP0326USB

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant: Gregel, et al.
Serial No.: 10/697,509
Filed: October 3, 2003
For: **REINFORCING BAR CONNECTION AND METHOD**
Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Examiner: Not yet assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, pending applications, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is enclosed except for: (a) pending applications or (b) those previously cited or submitted to the Office in the following application(s) upon which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120:

Serial No.: _____
Filing Date: _____

Regarding any document, publication or other information for which a date is not given on the attached PTO-1449, Applicant(s) believe(s) the same may qualify as "prior" art to this application and should be treated accordingly, although Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to contest the prior art status of any document, publication or information, should issue arise.

2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth in the following document(s):

- (a) ___ Copy of each English language version of a search report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office of each document being submitted from the search report.
- (b) ___ Attachment entitled "Concise Explanation of Relevance of Non-English Language Documents".

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

- (a) ___ Within 3 months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.
- (b) ☒ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. If this Statement is not filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, the required certification is given below or, in the absence thereof, the Office is authorized to charge the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988 for consideration of this Statement.
- (c) ___ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after a first or second submission under 37 C.F.R. 1.129(a).
- (d) ___ After the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance.

- (1) ___ The required certification is given below, or
- (2) ___ Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or
- (3) ___ Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.
- (e) ___ After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Petition hereby is made for consideration of this Statement and the required certification is indicated below.
- (1) ___ Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), or
- (2) ___ Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

4. Certification (if applicable)

- (a) ___ The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.
- (b) ___ The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

This Information Disclosure Statement with cited references is being re-submitted because Applicant's Attorney has not received a postcard from the USPTO confirming receipt of the Information Disclosure Statement submitted to the Patent Office on October 29, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

Date February 2, 2004

1621 Euclid Avenue, 19th Floor
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(216) 621-1113

By 
Jonathan A. Platt, Reg. No. 41,255

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents enclosed herewith are being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: February 2, 2004

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Jonathan A. Platt

Form PTO-1449 (Modified) LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)	Atty Docket No. ERICP0326USB	Serial No. 10/697,509
	Applicant: Gregel, et al.	
	Filing Date 10/3/03	Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date if Appropriate
	50,190	9/1865	Watson			
	1,377,101	5/1921	Sparling			
	3,480,309	7/1967	Harris			
	3,551,999	1/1971	Gutmann			
	3,769,678	11/1973	Marsden			
	3,891,294	6/1975	Philibert			
	3,969,920	7/1976	Marsden, et al.			
	4,241,490	12/1980	Edwards			
	4,408,926	10/1983	Werner			
	4,469,465	9/1984	Andrus			
	4,710,052	12/1987	Elger			
	4,848,971	7/1989	Price, Jr.			
	4,850,777	7/1989	Lawrence, et al.			
	5,308,184	5/1994	Bernard			
	6,089,779	7/2000	Lancelot, III			
	6,099,196	8/2000	Lancelot, III			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Information Disclosure Statement PTO-1449 (Modified)

The identification of any reference is not intended to be, and should not be understood as being, an admission that such publication, in fact, constitutes "prior art" within the meaning of applicable law since, for example, a given reference may have a later effective date than first seems apparent or the reference may have an effective date which can be antedated. The "prior art" status of any reference is a matter to be resolved during prosecution.

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
						Yes	No
	569,729	6/1945	GB				X
	974,442	11/1964	GB				X
	1,432,888	4/1976	GB				X
	1 659 247	2/1971	DE				X
	2 558 904	1/1984	FR			X*	
	93/24257	12/1993	WO				X
	00/66852	11/2000	WO				X

* Abstract Only

OTHER ART

Examiner Initial	Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.
	Blitz Splice The Ultimate Rebar Connection a simple, low-cost and better system for cold splicing all sizes of (4-18") Rebar, PM Blitz Coupler, Blitz Corporation. Brochure, 4 pages.
	CCL α Alpha Splice, CCL Systems Limited. Brochure, 4 pages.
	Reinforcement Anchorages and Splices, Fourth Edition 1997. Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute, Prepared under the direction of the CRSI Engineering Practice Committee by the Committee on Reinforcement Anchorages and Splices.
	The Ultimate Stress Splicer for Full Positive Connections, Stricon Products Ltd. Brochure, 8 pages including Tension Splice Test Data Summary.
	Quick Wedge, Erico, Inc. 1992. Brochure, 4 pages.

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